



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:)
 Charles L. Branch et al.)
 Serial No.)
 Filed Herewith)
 INTERBODY FUSION GRAFTS)
 AND INSTRUMENTATION)

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
 BOX PATENT APPLICATION
 Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants wish to bring to the attention of the Examiner the patents, publications and/or other information listed on the attached PTO Form 1449 (modified). Except as noted below, copies are not enclosed, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), since they were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in prior application Serial No. 09/181,353, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date. However, if it would assist the Examiner to have separate copies of the listed references for this application, Applicants will be happy to supply such copies upon request, preferably before the first Office Action.

Enclosed are copies of the following references:

U.S. 5,458,642	10/1995	Beer et al.
U.S. 5,782,830	7/1998	Farris
U.S. 5,989,289	11/1999	Coates
U.S. 6,033,830	3/2000	Bianchi
U.S. 6,096,081	8/2000	Grivas
PCT WO96/22747	8/1996	
EPO 392076	10/1990	

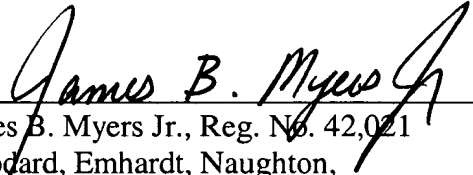
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Page 1 of 2

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b).

This Statement is being submitted concurrently with the filing of this patent application, and, therefore, it is believed that no fee is due.

Respectfully submitted,

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